WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY - Founded December 17, 1857 MAY 1988

# WASHTENAW IMPRESSIONS

## WCHS HONORS 100 YEAR OLD WILD MEN'S SHOP

Wild & Company Men's Shop on State Street started in business 100 years ago last January as a tailoring shop on Washington Street.

The founder's grandson, George A. Wild, Jr., and his family were introduced and presented an anniversary certificate at the April meeting in honor of the centennial of the family business.

George's grandfather, Gottlieb Heinrich WIld, came from Germany and spent five years with an English tailor in Toledo, Ohio, before moving to Ann Arbor where there were a lot of Swabians like himself.

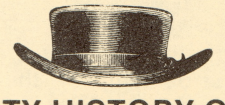
He founded the Schwaben Verein, a group of German businessmen with names like Seyfried, Katz and Schlenker. (The local Schwaben Verein is also celebrating its centennial this year.)

Gottlieb's brother David was a partner in the business until 1936 when the partnership was dissolved. George Albert Wild, Sr., took over.

In 1904 they bought the State Street property and raced to open their store ahead of former Wagner & Co., George, Jr., said. Some thought they had moved to the boondocks but the story in the family is that business doubled the first year.

Another family story has it that when Gottlieb and David first opened their upstairs tailoring shop, they didn't have much business but when they heard steps on the stairs, the scissors started clipping.

Even George, Jr.'s great-grandfather, John George, worked as a coatmaker with his sons. George, Jr., is a nephew of the late WCHS member, Helen Wild.



## COUNTY HISTORY OUT

Sample copies of the new illustrated *History of Washtenaw County* by Windsor Publications were previewed and author Ruth Bordin introduced at the annual meeting. It is on sale at bookstores and pre-publication orders have been delivered.

## WCHS TO VISIT DETROIT'S HISTORIC FORT WAYNE, GUARDIAN BUILDING; RIDE ON PEOPLE MOVER

Washtenaw County Historical Society will sally forth Saturday, June 11, to take (in) Detroit's historic Fort Wayne, where never a shot was fired in anger but where many a Michigan soldier entered military service from Civil War time through the Vietnam era.

After seeing the 19th century fort and lunching in the mess hall or on the grounds, the tour will head downtown for a ride on the new Detroit People Mover and a peek at the impressive, colorful lobby of the restored Guardian Building.

Border tensions between Canada and the United States during the so-called Patriot War in Canada in the late 1830s led the U.S. to build the fort as part of a defense plan for the entire northern frontier.

The original 1840s forest is a square, walled, four-bastioned work with dry moat at the narrowest point on the Detroit River. A number of Army buildings were added outside the walls in later years.

The restored forest is now a branch of the Detroit Historical Museum. On the grounds are a military museum in the 1848 barracks, an Indian museum, a 900-year-old Indian burial mound and the Tuskegee Airmen museum of America's first black military aviation unit.

Among restored buildings are the 1880 Commanding Officer's house and the Spanish-American War guard house. Jim Conway, curator of architectural history for the City of Detroit, is to be our guide at the fort.

The elevated People Mover loops 2.9 miles around downtown Detroit and the Renaissance Center area. Each of 13 stations features murals or other art forms to be glimpsed in passing.

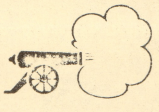
The 40-story Guardian Building was called a "cathedral of finance" when it opened as the New Union Trust Building at 500 Griswold Street in 1929.

MichCon (Michigan Consolidated Gas Company) which now occupies most of the building began restoring the main lobby in 1985.

The building is ornamented with a colorful Aztec-inspired geometric design repeated throughout. Much of the ornamentation is local Pewabic tile although the main lobby features a ceiling of Rookwood tile from Cincinnati and a mosaic glass mural.

Prepaid reservations are due Wednesday, June 8 to: WCHS Tour, 1520 Martha, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. The fee is $11 per person. (Tour registration form on page 5). Lunch on your own at fort concession stand or bring your own brown bag.

The bus will leave Ann Arbor at 9 a.m. from near the bank in the Maple Village parking lot and return by 5 p.m. Questions? Call 662-6275 or 663-8826.



## $2,000 GIFT RECEIVED FROM BERNARD HARKINS

The late Bernard E. Harkins, longtime Ann Arbor realtor and former City Councilman, who died May 10, 1987 at age 93 willed WCHS $2,000.

He and his father started in the real estate business in 1915. He continued active until 1975. He was a five-term president of the Ann Arbor Board of Realtors, past-president of the Michigan Board and a National Board director six years.

A World War I veteran, he was born in Ann Arbor December 8, 1893 to James E. and Charlotte Andrews Harkins.

## KEMPF HOUSE OPEN

Historic preservation awards will be presented 4-6 p.m., Sunday, June 12, at Kempf House instead of May 15 as previously scheduled.

Except for Memorial Day and other holiday weekends, Kempf House is open for guided tours 1-4 p.m. Sundays. A number of WCHS possessions are displayed there on loan. Ask your guide to point out some of them.

## THE CASE AGAINST CAPTIONS

# HISTORY THROUGH IMAGES AS WELL AS WORDS

In the 20th century pictures in books have captions to explain them. Jonathan Marwil's *A History of Ann Arbor* does not. Why not?

The author presented his case against captions at the WCHS April meeting.

"I think I'm right in saying that there has not been a work of serious history written in this country yet that trys to do what I've done in this book – that is to integrate images with words in such a way as they work together to tell the story.

"I'll take complaints about it afterwards because a few people have already indicated they weren't happy. I got a letter from one reader – a very kind and generous letter. This reader's only complaint was the book wasn't very 'thumbable.'

"It's a wonderful English word. I don't know if its in the dictionary but I sort of like it.

"This clearly is a very unfamiliar technique. In the 20th century, as adults, we read stories in words. Illustrations in books are essentially very secondary material.

"They are often grouped together at certain points in the book. You have to refer back to them. No matter how well done, they are not meant to tell you the story. They are meant to illustrate it. That, by definition, is a secondary function. It's different than making the point by using a picture.

"We are a word culture. We learn through words, not images. However, this has not always been the case.

"Before the 20th century there were cultures in which the picture was the essential way of learning. This is still true in pre-literate or illiterate cultures today where there is no written language.

"Nevertheless, people gather information and a sense of history. The use of images to tell a story is by no means unknown.

"If you were to go to Rome, Italy, today, you would find Trajan's column, done in the second century A.D. It is perhaps 90 or 100 feet tall.

**"This column celebrates the Emperor Trajan's victories. Circling the entire column from bottom to top is the actual story of those victories in bas-relief.**

"When this column was erected, there was scaffolding beside it so that you could 'read' the story as you mounted the scaffolding.

"In 1066, there was the famous Norman conquest of England. A few years after this conquest, one of the most famous pieces of tapestry in the world was made – the Bayeux tapestry.

"It was 230 feet long, only 20 inches wide, it tells the story of the Norman Conquest of England from the point of view, of course, of the victors. It is a series of images with words running along top and bottom that describe the scenes, but you read them together.

**Oops. Don't look at the caption first. Look at the picture. Now you see it is the Ann Arbor Organ Works but did you notice what it says under that? Like businessmen today, D.F. Allmendinger was worried about out-of-town competition.** Michigan Historical Collections. UM Bentley Library. Print courtesy of Ann Arbor Observer.

"If you were to go to any medieval church you would learn many of the Biblical stories by looking at the stained glass windows or the sculpture.

**"People were telling history through images long before they told history through words.**

"There are still writers today who integrate images and words so that you have to read them together. Children's literature is filled with those kinds of books. There are even adult books like that – I brought one with me, *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein.

"So there is a kind of tradition to what I've done though what I've done specifically seems to be unique.

"I decided on this strategy of integrating words and pictures as soon as I decided to write the book. It was part of the deal that I could do it this way and Don Hunt who commissioned the book was certainly interested in my doing it.

"Why did I think it was a good idea? The first reason is that a city, by its nature, lends itself to visual description, to, in fact, visual analysis. A city is something we live in and see constantly.

"Images or pictures of it or its parts tell us much about the character of that city. It is by looking at it that, in part, we know it.

He then showed some images from his book as slides and commented on why he used them:

1. "A man by a rail fence looking at Ann Arbor from the west (page 53 in Marwil's book) around 1876. This slide symbolizes the import of what I have to say this afternoon.

2. "Those of you who have read or seen the book will notice that before each chapter there is a map of Ann Arbor showing how the city looked at the beginning of that chapter, except before Chapter 4 there is a photograph of downtown Ann Arbor on a summer day (page 92).

"You see the awnings on the stores to beat off the sun. It was probably taken shortly before World War I. The image itself is a map of Ann Arbor in a way.

**"Notice the old Courthouse tower. That tower could be seen from almost anywhere in Ann Arbor. It was taken down 30-odd years ago. It was a focal point, a guide point."**

3. & 4. Two slides of the northwest corner of Main and Washington Streets, the first in 1862 and the same corner seven years later (page 43).

The first is of "obviously old wooden buildings." The signs, "Leather Store", "Boot and Shoe Store" and "Harness Shop", suggest how central to the economy of Ann Arbor was leather and the leather working industry, he noted.

The second picture shows a "commercial palace." (The latter was recently restored).

"By simply posing those two images right next to each other one can see the change that occurred over a very brief period.

**5. "The old Courthouse being eaten alive (surrounded) by the new courthouse as its being built in 1954. Finally, with the new one built, the old was torn apart.**

"It seemed to me that by putting this photo in the book, you would get a much more felt sense of what had occurred by seeing the picture, not just the words.

6. The old Ann Arbor High School a few days after it burned on New Year's eve in 1904.

"This building probably was more im-

portant to more people in Ann Arbor in its day than any other building with the possible exception of the Courthouse.

"The first and second day after the building burned, people gathered outside to look. It was like someone in the family had died."

"These images give import to the story. A second reason for using images is that a city, over time, generates thousands upon thousands of images of itself. Even millions if you go into family archives.

"These can be photographs, advertisements, cartoons. These images pinpoint or symbolize in some way something about the city.

7. A small advertisement from an 1833 Ann Arbor newspaper, headed "Brewery" (page 4). The bottom line says, "All kinds of produce taken in payment."

**"That advertisement is not just trying to sell beer. That tells you the most central fact about the Ann Arbor economy before the Civil War, particularly before 1840, that there wasn't enough money, people had to barter.**

8. A map of southern Michigan and northern Ohio and Indiana with concentric circles around Ann Arbor of 50, 100, 150 miles from it (page 111).

"It accompanies the description that Ann Arbor in the 1920s, as it had before and has since, was trying to lure to itself more industry. This advertisement said that Ann Arbor is right in the middle of the automobile industry, therefore industrialists should want to come here.

"Not many manufacturers bought this argument. But this advertisement tells you something very important, that since the 1870s, when the University became the dominant institution, this town had been trying to lure industry and get a greater variety in the economy.

9. A 1942 Fox Tent & Awning Company advertisement (page 129), which says, in part, "Perhaps a tent will solve your housing problems."

**"During the second World War, the housing crisis in this town was light years more serious than it is today. There was a dramatic lack of housing because of the war plants.**

"In Ann Arbor in 1942 people who had full time jobs were living in an automobile. This advertisement was speaking to that problem.

10. 1957 cartoon making fun of Mayor William Brown (page 139).

"In the middle '50s began the explosion of research industry into this town. This has been going on for 30 years.

"Brown tried to argue that what drew these companies was Ann Arbor because it was such a nice town. This *Michigan Daily* cartoon says, 'Uh-uh. It was the University, that's the real magnet.'

"Here are a series of images that tend to pinpoint certain important moments. While these could be told through records, there are images that provide clues or evidence or insight to situations that otherwise would remain unknown or unclear.

11. 1851 clothing advertisement headed: "Opposition to Jews!" "That's a rather shocking image. Ann Arbor thinks of itself as a fairly liberal town. It is obviously anti-semitic comment. It not only informs you about anti-Semitism in Ann Arbor before the Civil War but it leads you to research what kind of Jewish community existed then.

**"In fact a very important Jewish community did exist here. Important in the sense that the biggest business in Ann Arbor before 1870 was owned by Jews. It was a tannery. It employed the most people, had the largest payroll, largest production figures etc.**

"The Jews in Ann Arbor were perhaps no more than 100 or 200 people. But they were very successful and some were in the clothing trade. Here is a man, William O'Hara, who didn't like what he was seeing, and he published this ad for several months in a row in a couple of Ann Arbor papers."

12. "Now you wouldn't think a face could be very revealing but I thought that face was (page 47). He's a very well known figure not only in the history of Ann Arbor but also in the history of the University.

"His name is Silas Douglas. He was a mayor of Ann Arbor for two terms, a very dynamic mayor. He was also a professor at the University. In the latter part of the 19th century he was involved in the longest, most tortuous, most confusing and ultimately probably fairly meaningless legal suit that the University has ever been involved in.

"I chose to have his picture not because of his problems with the University, because I'm not telling the story of the University but because, as mayor, he was a very dynamic figure and he was the most temperance minded mayor Ann Arbor ever had.

"He was responsible for gearing up the police force and, in particular for the police force to investigate places selling alcohol outside license hours etc.

"Look at those eyes. Those are the eyes of a man, if not a fanatic, certainly quite obsessed with what he's going to do. Those are not the eyes of a mild-mannered figure.

13. 1884 clothing store advertisement (page 68) headed, "More Manufacturing Institutions Needed in Ann Arbor" and single-handedly offering a $500 bonus to a manufacturer who will build a factory and employ 100 working men for a number of years.

"It says something, it seems to me about how deep was the desire to lure new business.

14. "A different stand on the same question is this photograph usually captioned "Allmendinger Organ Works,' (page 50) and it is indeed, but it's the writing below 'Ann Arbor Organ Works' which is important. It says, 'Patronize Home Industry.'

**"Ann Arbor unfortunately was in the middle of a lot of things – on one side was Chicago, on the other, Detroit. After the Civil War if you had any money, that was where you shopped – you went to Detroit or mail-ordered to Chicago. This sign is telling you something about a fear that business men have.**

"Just translate this into 1988 Japanese and American cars and you will understand what these people were thinking about 100 years ago. This is why this picture is rather more revealing than it would seem to be.

15. "It wasn't my own patriotism that led me to include this picture of a Bethlehem Church Fourth of July picnic (with prominently displayed 48-star United States flag) probably World War I-time (page 98).

"Those who have read the book or are generally familiar with the history of the city known that during the first World War, especially after America entered the war in 1917, there was a lot of ill feeling directed towards the Germans living in this town.

"It seems to me that what the Germans at this picnic are doing is deliberately hanging out flags to tell the world we are Americans although I can't date the exact year."

16. A 1940 advertisement by William Metzger of Metzger's Restaurant (page 126) in the *Washtenaw Post-Tribune* in which he responds to rumors and accusations that he is pro-German.

"The war had already started in Europe and clearly he was anticipating that there would be a repeat performance of what had happened in 1917-18.

"The whole story is in the book. It got fairly ugly in Ann Arbor as it did in many places in this country where there was any significant German population."

17. An 1856 advertisement by a black man (page 27) says, "I am now prepared to do WHITEWASHING as is WHITEWASHING on the shortest notice."

**"It's an odd advertisement – a black man in 1856 making fun of the University ('Being an experienced Professor and having both Theory and Practice enables me to give entire satisfaction to the most fastidious.')**

"He's also making fun of the fact that there was a presidential election that year (The heading: 'Summer Campaign of 1856, Henry Clay in the Field.')

"It turned out I learned more about Henry Clay. He was involved in a famous murder case a few years later. Unfortunately, he was the victim.

"But I thought this advertisement was interesting regarding the presence, even, if you will, the state of mind of black people in Ann Arbor before the Civil War. I don't think that ad could have appeared in Kentucky or Georgia."

18. Interior view of Ann Arbor's

Michigan Central Railroad depot, circa 1890s (page 72).

"The railway station became the key focal point of people coming in and leaving this town. For almost 100 years it was the first Ann Arbor building that students knew."

19. Exterior of Michigan Central Depot (page 78). "This is the only picture in the book that has a caption. It is a postcard labeled, 'AT THE GATES OF MECCA.' All those horses and buggies are lined up to take people, students primarily, where they had to go.

**"Everybody came to the railroad station including presidential candidates. President Nixon campaigned from a train here. President Rossevelt's train stood on the siding for six hours back in the 1930s but he wouldn't talk to people in Ann Arbor. King Edward VII of England, while he was still Prince of Wales, came through Ann Arbor in a sealed train.**

20. My-T-Fine Cafe, South Thayer Street, circa 1930.

"It had a couple of locations and owners in the 1920s and '30s. The woman in the picture is almost out of Grant Wood. This is before dormitories have really come into their own. Students lived in the town in rooming houses and took their meals in places like the My-T-Fine Cafe.

"We look around today and we see one ice cream place after one pizzeria after one cookie place. Notice that they are 'extra' food places.

"At this time Ann Arbor was filled with restaurants, more than today, but you had to get a meal there. This evokes about a 75-year period when small restaurants like this really were the 'kitchen' for most students.

21. "Chapter 5, Research Center of the Midwest, 1945-1980," (page 134) begins with a series of map diagrams of Ann Arbor showing the city's growth in area from 1824 to 1960 "to give the reader a sense of just how large the city had grown."

**"From 1870-1890 the city didn't grow at all in area although more people came."**

22. Photograph of "Student Strike Parade" on State Street in 1968 "during the time of upheaval all over the country and in the city (page 155)."

"I chose images because they were interesting and they symbolized something. However, I ran into a very serious problem laying out the book. Because these pictures have no captions they had to go at a very exact place in the text.

I had to lead into the picture in my text so the reader would understand it. You just can't move it around.

"It forced me first of all to make certain decisions about size of pictures. Worse it forced me to discard some images I wanted to use because I couldn't fit them into the text where I wanted to use them, otherwise some other image would have to fall out.

23. "The 1850 census page didn't come out as well as I would like because it has to be kind of scrunched (page 20).

"You'll have to trust me. There is something almost magical about looking at a census page – they are handwritten, a human being talked to someone in that household as distinquished from a printed record in which you don't have a sense of human currency.

"It's like the beginning of a novel or a history. These are the characters. They are this age. They were born here. They do this (occupation).

24. Laying the cornerstone of the Michigan League, 1928 (page 112).

**"The photograph is too small in the book. It's so striking when you see it full size. You get a feeling for not only the building going up but for the whole background and for the sense, as I tried to explain in the book, that the University, especially the building of it over time, acted as a gigantic urban renewal project for Ann Arbor.**

"Availability of images was a problem. There was an event for which I desperately wanted a photograph. I am convinced photographs were taken but I have not found one yet.

"In 1916 Ann Arbor suffered probably its most violent strike at the Hoover Plant. One man was killed, some others wounded. It was a very nasty strike.

"In 1916 lots of people had cameras. Taking photos was common. I'm sure someone has one in private possession.

"Then I ran into a picture I wanted to use very much but couldn't get permission. It was a picture taken by Robert Frank, a professsional photographer among other things, who published a book 25 years ago called *The Americans* which is arguably one of the finest books of photographs ever done in this country. It was re-released a couple of years ago – that's how good it is.

"In it there is a photograph of Ann Arbor. I wrote to the gallery which represents Frank, I wrote to Frank and "no soap" unless we wanted to pay huge sums of money to publish it.

He showed a slide of the picture captioned only "Ann Arbor, 1959" by Frank. Several slightly clad students are laying on blankets in front of parked cars in a park.

"It's a remarkable photo. Consider Ann Arbor as this green bucolic place. Consider also the overwhelming presence of the autos. He just walked around obviously and got this shot. You see these bodies, very vulnerable.

"The fact that they are making out I don't think is nearly as interesting as the sense you have of their vulnerability. There's something very menacing about those cars, yet behind them is this age-old Ann Arbor background of trees.

"It certainly brings together a sense of past, present and more importantly, almost an ominous sense of the future.

"I have been in contact recently with one of the curators at the University Art Museum to see how many photos Frank has of Ann Arbor and whether there are enough to mount an exhibition.

**25. Instead of the Frank picture, I used this (page 146) which is a nice photo of two young people on a bridge over the Huron River. It's in the same era and it encapsulates the idyllic aspect of Ann Arbor.**

"When I decided to do the book, Don Hunt was for the idea that I would integrate these images without captions. He sold *The Observer* before I finished the book. The people who took it over weren't quite as happy, but I prevailed.

"These images are not naked. They are without captions only in a formal sense. As you read the book each image is led into by some statement suggesting what the image is, how it should be interpreted, what its meaning might me.

"There are reasons nevertheless for why I did not formally caption them.

**"Most important, perhaps, captions close pictures. They put blinders on them. They tell you what you ought to see and that's what you then see. In the Allmendinger organ company pictures most people will not read the sign which says 'Patronize home industry.'**

"Captions can also misinform you with their brevity. Your eye immediately goes to the caption, not the picture. One reason for not using captions is to allow the image to tell its own story. You look at home photos more carefully because they don't have captions.

"That leads into the second reason. A photograph has a statement to make. Consider when you go to an art museum. Most of us look at the label. 'Ahhh. It says 'Lady in Blue.' Then you stand back and look at the picture. Where is the lady in blue?

"We are conditioned that when we look at that caption, then we really do look at the picture. That's the etiquette of going to an art museum but not the etiquette of looking at pictures in books. You look at the captions and then you stop looking.

Thirdly, I wanted those images to become what I would call part of the rhetoric of storytelling. After all when you read a book you allow writers to write the way they want to in different styles. Why not imagine that images have that same sort of rhetorical capacity? Why not allow images to become part of the writer's palette?

**"Now, mind you, I don't think this technique of using images without captions can be used for most historical subjects. It can only be used for those subjects which naturally generate all kinds of images. But why not, with those subjects take advantage of the extraordinary materials and potentiality available to you?"**

26. Photograph taken on top of first parking structure in 1949 at Washington

and First Streets (page 137).

"Now they open parking structures in Ann Arbor all the time, much to our dismay at times, but when was the last time they had a brass band? I think that tells you a great deal about Ann Arbor in 1949 that they got out a brass band, cheerleaders, a dance, the mayor and photographers. That was an event.

"I'm not sure its an important thing to have lost, but we've lost that sense of the significance of that kind of event in the city."

27. Photograph of girl watching police watching rioters during 1969 demonstrations on South University.

"It's one of the most complex photographs in the book, and one of my favorites because of it. It is a picture of the riots which doesn't involve any violence."

28. Ann Arbor from the west, 1987, the last image in the book, (page 169).

"For those of you who have read the book, you will notice that at the end of each chapter, with one exception, there is an image of Ann Arbor, all from the west. Those are intentionally done.

"Those images have to do with one running theme of the book, that Ann Arbor as an idea is perhaps more instrumental in minds of people than Ann Arbor, the fact. Ann Arbor, the idea, is often caught in these images from afar.

## COBBLESTONE DATES SET

Cobblestone Farm, 2781 Packard Road, plans an arts and crafts fair noon-5 p.m. June 4-5, an Independence Day celebration Monday, July 4, and a return engagement of the Rosier Players tent show Tuesday-Saturday, July 26-30, with shows nightly at 7:30 p.m.

July 4 activities will include a reading of the Declaration of Independence, ice cream social, story telling and period dancing demonstration.

## OLD HOUSE CLINICS SET

The Ann Arbor Area Preservation Alliance old house clinics coming up are "Porches and Exterior Trim," June 12; "Furniture Restoration," July 10; "Stonemasonry," August 14; and "Roofing," September 11.

All are at 2 p.m. Sundays at Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Road. Attendance limited, cost $3. Questions? Call 665-2112.

Pat Owen, housewright and restoration artisan, will be June speaker. Widd Schmidt, who grew up in a Grand Rapids family of five generations of furniture makers is July speaker. David Menefee of Menefee Stonemasonry will talk in August and Joe Hayes, Ann Arbor builder for 26 years, in September.

## HAIR PICTURE 'GROSS' BUT SHE LIKES IT

WCHS's adult "What Is It? traveling exhibit was displayed at Gabriel Richard High School and Chairwoman Karen O'Neal presented the children's exhibit at King School in March.

One of a sheaf of thank you letters from King School pupils, dated March 23, 1988, follows:

"Dear Mrs. O'Niell,

I really enjoyed the presentation you gave Tuesday it was great! That hair picture was gross but I liked it anyway I really liked those old'n day shoes. You friend, Rebecca."

## 'WHAT IS IT' GAME AVAILABLE TO SCHOOLS

WCHS offers a traveling exhibit of small artifacts set up as a humorous "What is it" game for children to schools and another for adults.

They are available for classes and meetings, subject to time and volunteer availability. For information call Karen O'Neal, chairwoman, 665-2242.

## NEW MEMBERS

Mary T. Beckerman
Roger & Joan Ellsworth
Ruth Floyd
Mr. & Mrs. Dale Fosdick
Enid M. Gosling
Mrs. Leonard Himler
D.E. Limpert, Manchester
Alphonsus C. & Ann Murphy, East Lansing
L. Norris & Helen Post
Hilda Schultheiss
Margaret Sias, Chelsea
Herbert Taggart, Sr.
Carl T. & Marcia J. Ticknor

## 'GENEALOGY WORLD' SEMINAR TOPIC

An editor of *Genealogy Magazine Digest* of Salt Lake City, Utah, Ronald A. Bremer, will speak on "The World of Genealogy" at 7 p.m. Friday, May 20, in Lecture Hall II, Liberal Arts and Sciences Building, Washtenaw Community College. The free seminar for both beginner and advanced researchers is sponsored by Genealogy Society of Washtenaw County.

The GSWC annual meeting is 1:30 p.m. Sunday, May 22, followed by a talk on "Letter Writing And How To Get What You Want" by Lucille Couzynse of the Michigan Genealogical Council. Class, 3:30 p.m., "Organizing Information to Share With Others."

Annual potluck picnic 1:30 p.m. Sunday, June 26, at home of Martha Carr, 5632 Pineview Drive, Ypsilanti, with round-robin "Summer School for Genealogists."

## HILL AUDITORIUM NOT ON SITE OF LOG HOUSE

According to WCHS member Wystan Stevens, Judge William Asa Fletcher's large log house stood about two blocks east of Hill Auditorium about where the new dental school library and "tooth fairy" sculpture is on the front lawn of North Hall.

Quoting Kent Sagendorph's *Michigan, The Story of the University* in the March issue, the editor said it was on the Hill Auditorium site. Stevens calls the book "wonderfully entertaining but not notably reliable." Stevens says Fletcher Street runs along the Judge's former property.

**DETROIT FORT WAYNE TOUR**
**Saturday June 11, 1988**

Please make reservations for _____ persons at $11 each.

Total enclosed: $_____. Reservations due Wednesday, June 8.
Send check or money order to: WCHS, c/o Mrs. Esther Warzynski, 1520 Martha, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. (Lunch on your own at concession stand or bring brown bag.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip Code _____

Please list name/names as you wish them to appear on name tags:

**Historical Happenings Involve:**

## QUILTS, HOUSE TOURS, TRAINS, FARM HOUSES

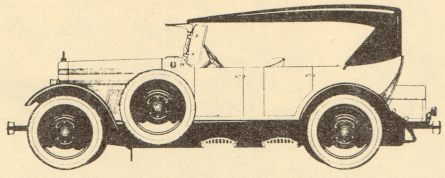
**Chelsea Historical Society:** Quilt show 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, May 22, noon-4 p.m. the 23rd at depot.

Meeting 7:30 p.m. June 13 at Crippen Building, Chelsea Methodist Home. No meetings July, August.

**Dexter Society:** Museum, 3443 Inverness, open 1-4 p.m.Fridays and Saturdays or by appointment (call 426-2519).

**Manchester Society:** Annual potluck picnic June 20, place to be announced.

**Milan Society:** 7:30 p.m. third Wednesday at Hack House, 775 County Street through summer. Hack House will be on the historic home tour during Olde Milan Fest August 20-21 which will include antiques, crafts, quilts, vintage fashion show, antique car show and parade.



**Northfield Society:** Potluck supper meeting 6:30 p.m. June 1 at St. Patrick's Church, 5671 Whitmore Lake Road. Tasha Lebow of UM School of Education will speak on "History of Women in Michigan," at 7:30 p.m.

**Pittsfield Society:** 7:30 p.m. first Wednesday at town hall in June and August. History Day planned 1-5 p.m. Sunday, July 24, at town hall on transportation-roads, railroads, airports in Pittsfield.

**Salem Society:** 7:30 p.m. May 26 at 7961 Dickerson Street (former Congregational Church). President Jim Melosh will talk about "Starting Up Your Family Tree." June 18 the Society will take a train ride from Clinton to Tecumseh and visit museums in both places.

**Saline Society:** 7 p.m. fourth Thursday in education building of Presbyterian Church. Nancy Schneider will talk May 26 about taping oral history. Professor Marshall McLennan of Eastern Michigan University will give the June program on "Vernacular Farm Houses." Home tour and designer showcase planned September 17-18.

**Webster Society:** 6:30 p.m. Monday, June 6, potluck supper at home of May Mast, 4580 Farrell Road, followed by walking tour of local cemeteries. Next meeting September.

**Ypsilanti Society:** Museum, 220 North Huron, open 1-4 p.m. Friday-Sunday. Old-time school days exhibit currently. School classes, third grade and up, welcome. Call 482-4990 mornings for appointment.

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**WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**ANNUAL BUS TOUR to DETROIT'S FORT WAYNE**

**9 A.M. Saturday June 11, 1988**

**(Details, page 1)**

08-Dec-87 SR CITIZEN
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